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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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AMERICAN FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MEET IN CALIFORNIA

The third meeting of the American Fisheries Advisory Committee, authorized under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act, will be held on May 1 and 2 in Long Beach, Calif., according to an announcement being sent today to committee members by Assistant Secretary of the Interior Wesley A. D'Ewart.

Mr. D'Ewart will serve as presiding officer during the meeting.

The chief objective of the meeting will be to review the status of current fishery research and development projects being financed by Saltonstall-Kennedy funds and to discuss recommendations for next year's program. The program is now in the second year of operation.

The Saltonstall-Kennedy Act, approved on July 1, 1954, provides \$3 million annually, for three years, from duties on imported fishery products for the purpose of aiding the American commercial fishing industry by promoting the free flow of domestically produced fishery products in commerce and developing and increasing markets for these products. The Act authorizes the use of these funds to provide an educational service and market development program, and to conduct research in the fields of technology, biology, and related activities.

Under a provision of the Act, the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to appoint a group of experts from the different segments of the industry--fishermen, vessel owners, distributors, and processors of fish and fishery products and byproducts--to advise him on commercial fishing problems. The committee consists of 19 members, appointed to serve until June 30, 1957.

Two meetings were held in 1955, the first in Washington, D. C., in April, and the second in Boston in August. A different city is selected for each meeting in order to give committee members the opportunity to study at first hand new developments in important fishery areas of the country. While in the Long Beach-San Pedro area, the group will inspect local fishery activities.

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